

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 48, Issue 10

October, 2025

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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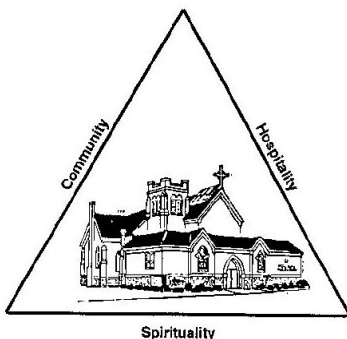
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Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events	2-3
Stewardship	4
Hymn History	5
Faith in Action	6
Daily Bible Readings	7
LifeWise 5K	8
Kits Mission	9
Trip to China	10
Connecting With...	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
October Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Korner	15
Living Our Faith	16

Hello Everyone,

October is here, and Christmas is only about 12 weeks away! But, before we worry about Advent, we have some other things to attend to. Sermon series, Halloween, and a new member class, just to name a few. Not a member of St. Paul's? Do you want to be? Let me know, and we will have a membership class. I am leaning toward Sunday afternoons, but we will decide, as a group, in class. I also want to encourage you, if you are not a member and are unsure, to come to the class and see what it means to be a United Methodist, because we will always be stronger with your God given gifts. If you decide at the end that you don't want to join, I will be understanding, and you will have a clearer idea of Methodism here in Ohio.

Halloween is only a few weeks away, and I want to have another exciting and successful Trunk or Treat. Which means we will need donations of candy to hand out on the 30th. We also want you to come, park your vehicle, and hand out candy to the kids. We will once again have hot chocolate and pencils for the kids from the church. Last year, we had 6 vehicles handing out candy. I would love to double that number this year by inviting our friends and neighbors to come and hand out candy, here at St. Paul's. I look forward to talking and seeing all the families in our community who stop by on Halloween evening. I hope you will join me for this great community event.

We will be finishing up the 'Unafraid series' in October and moving on to a stewardship series as we continue to struggle with keeping up with fulfilling our financial needs here at St. Paul's. I, too, struggle with giving, especially since the cost of living has continued to increase over the last couple of years. As we look at stewardship, we will not only look at money, but we will also look at your time and your talents, and how we can be faithful with everything God has given us to ensure the people of Elida have a place where they can learn about Jesus, and His Love for them. I invite you to come along on the journey as we experience God and all God can do here at St. Paul's. Until then, I will see you in the mission field.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul



October is



Month

Family Promise Meal Mission

Friday, October 17

Volunteers are needed to help prepare and deliver the evening meal.

**October 5
'Coins for Communion'
to benefit Family Promise**



Food Pantry Sunday

October 19

Baking goods:

**Including spices, salt, pepper, flour,
sugar, mixes, vanilla**

**Donations are taken to the
Five Loaves Food Pantry
At The Church at Allentown**

October 26

Reformation Sunday

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



**Deadline: the 20th
of each month**

Christian Symbol

VERBUM DOMINI MANET IN AETERNUM



Latin for "The Word of the Lord Endures Forever," this motto of the Lutheran branch of the Protestant Reformation comes from 1 Peter 1:25. Frederick the Wise, ruler of Saxony and one of Martin Luther's earliest and most influential supporters, had the VDMA symbol sewn into the right sleeve of the official garments worn at his court. The symbol also appeared on banners, flags, swords, and uniforms, representing the unity of the Lutheran laity in standing firm in their faith

St. Paul's Epistle

is published by St. Paul's
United Methodist Church

Secretary	Gail Fessler
Pianist	Lois Cook
Choir Director	Casey Rife
Custodian	Dave Decker

Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child



A small shoe box can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Guides for how to pack a shoebox may be picked up in the church sanctuary or online at samaritanaspurse.org. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child. Remember to pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoebox gift. Please include a donation of \$10.00 per box to cover international shipping and other costs.

Shoe Box collection is October 19 to November 16

Thought for the Month:

" ... It is in our life and conduct that we must show
our devotion to Christ."

—Woodrow Wilson

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Join Us In Mission to Our Neighborhood

Trunk or Treat

October 30

5:00 to 7:00 PM

Trunk or Treat is in the St. Paul's East parking lot. We are looking for people who do not have trick-or-treaters coming to their homes to come and open their trunks and pass out goodies. Candy donations are needed. Please pray about participating in this fun adventure. If interested there will be a sign-up sheet at the media desk or call the office.

Thank you in advance for your help!



October 30

Trick or Treat in Elida

We will once again be giving out hot chocolate, coffee and pencils to trick-or-treaters and parents. We will need volunteers to help get the drinks ready and to serve. If you would like to be part of this, there will be sign-up sheet at the media desk, or call the church office.

Stewardship

The Beauty of Stewardship

Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources — basically our entire lives. It's a beautiful concept when properly understood.

Here are the basics of good stewardship:

- God is the source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.
- We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.
- Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an account of our management of God's creation and of God's gifts.
- When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs, etc. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat, or smell. Yet we did the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God's provisions and our labor brought the garden to its fulfillment.
- Good stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our checkbook and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work.

That is the beauty of stewardship!

The St. Paul's stewardship information will be sent at the end of October and Stewardship Sunday is November 9th. Be in prayer about how much you choose to give and whether is weekly, monthly, yearly. How you want to give; with use of offering envelopes, placing in offering plate, directly through banking, or with our electronic giving (VANCO).

Electronic giving is convenient and easy. Giving in the moment with a fast, one-time donation, or schedule and manage reoccurring donations.

Pay or give using your debit/credit card or banking information.

If you would like to give electronically visit:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJ2D/home?source=qr>

or scan the QR code.



Hymn History

Take My Life and Let It Be

"Then Sings My Soul" Book 1, By Robert J. Morgan

1874

Yet indeed I also count all things loss for excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ. Philippians 3:8

Although hymnist Frances Havergal, 36, had served the Lord for years, she felt something was missing in her Christian experience. Then one day in 1873, she received a little book called "All for Jesus," which stressed the importance of making Christ the King of every corner and cubicle of one's life. Soon thereafter, she made a fresh and complete consecration of herself to Christ.

Years later when asked about it, she replied, "Yes, it was on Advent Sunday, December 2, 1873, I first saw clearly the blessedness of true consecration. I saw it as a flash of electric light, and what you see you can never un-see. There must be full surrender before there can be full blessedness."

Not long afterward, she found herself spending several days with ten people in a house, some of them unconverted. Others were Christians, but not fully surrendered to Christ. "Lord, give me all in this house," she prayed. She went to work witnessing, and before she left, all ten were yielded Christians. On the last night of her visit, Frances—too excited to sleep—wrote this great consecration hymn, "Take My Life...."

In the years that followed, Frances frequently used this hymn in her own devotions, especially every December 2, on the anniversary of her consecration.

On one occasion, as she pondered the words, Take my voice and let it sing / Always only for my King," she felt she should give up her secular concerts. Her beautiful voice was in demand, and she frequently sang with the Philharmonic. But from that moment, her lips were exclusively devoted to songs of the Lord.

On another occasion she was praying over the stanza that says, "Take my silver and my gold / Not a mite would I withhold." She had accumulated a great deal of jewelry, but she now felt she should donate it to the church Missionary Society. Writing to a friend, she said, "I retain only a brooch for daily wear, which is a memorial to my dear parents; also a locket with the holy portrait I have of my niece in heaven. Evelyn, I had no idea I had such a jeweler's shop; nearly fifty articles are being packed off. I don't think I need to tell you I never packed a box with such pleasure."

Have you given your whole life—everything—over to Jesus? Why not make this the date of your own complete consecration?



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

August 31, 2025	50
September 7, 2025	68
September 14, 2025	70
September 21, 2025	66

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$4,644.58

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
August 31, 2025	\$2,568.00	\$180.00
September 7, 2025	\$6,144.67	\$445.00
September 14, 2025	\$2,180.07	\$125.00
September 21, 2025	\$1,245.07	\$1,695.98

Sunday School Attendance

August 31, 2025	0
September 7, 2025	9
September 14, 2025	11
September 21, 2025	11

Hospitality Cart

October 5, 2025	OPEN
October 12, 2025	Clark Family
October 19, 2025	Greg & Barb Schade
October 26, 2025	Virginia Hollar

Flower Calendar

October 5, 2025	Don & Maedene Holmes
October 12, 2025	Scott & Gail Fessler
October 19, 2025	Alex & Stacy McAdams
October 26, 2025	Larry & Shirley Moser

Communion Servers: October 5

Station #1:

Gail Fessler & _____

Station #2:

Steve & Tracy Sdao

Daily Bible Readings

Wednesday 10/1

Psalm 38, 119:25-48
1 Kings 9:24-10:13
James 3:1-12, Mark 15:1-11

Thursday 10/2

Psalm 37, 1 Kings 11:1-13
James 3:13-4:12, Mark 15:12-21

Friday 10/3

Psalm 31, 35, 1 Kings 11:26-43
James 4:13-5:6, Mark 15:22-32

Saturday 10/4

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43
1 Kings 12:1-20
James 5:7-12, 19-20
Mark 15:33-39

Sunday 10/5

Psalm 63, 98, 103
1 Kings 12:21-33
Acts 4:18-31, John 10:31-42

Monday 10/6

Psalm 41, 44, 52, 1 Kings 13:1-10
Philippians 1:1-11, Mark 15:40-47

Tuesday 10/7

Psalm 45, 47, 48, 1 Kings 16:23-34
Philippians 1:12-30
Mark 16:1-8 (9-20)

Wednesday 10/8

Psalm 53, 119:49-72
1 Kings 17:1-24
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 2:1-12

Thursday 10/9

Psalm 59, 60, 93, 96
1 Kings 18:1-19
Philippians 2:12-30
Matthew 2:13-23

Friday 10/10

Psalm 40, 51, 54, 1 Kings 18:20-40
Philippians 3:1-16
Matthew 3:1-12

Saturday 10/11

Psalm 55, 138, 139
1 Kings 18:41-19:8
Philippians 3:17-4:7
Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday 10/12

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84
1 Kings 19:8-21
Acts 5:34-42, John 11:45-47

Monday 10/13

Psalm 58, 64, 65
1 Kings 21:1-16
1 Corinthians 1:1-19
Matthew 4:1-11

Tuesday 10/14

Psalm 61, 62, 68
1 Kings 21:17-29
1 Corinthians 1:20-31
Matthew 4:1-17

Wednesday 10/15

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
1 Kings 22:1-28
1 Corinthians 2:1-13
Matthew 4:18-25

Thursday 10/16

Psalm 70, 74
1 Kings 22:29-45
1 Corinthians 2:14-3:15
Matthew 5:1-10

Friday 10/17

Psalm 69, 73, 2 Kings 1:2-17
1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Matthew 5:11-16

Saturday 10/18

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
2 Kings 2:1-18
1 Corinthians 4:1-7
Matthew 5:17-20

Sunday 10/19

Psalm 34, 93, 96
2 Kings 4:8-37
Acts 9:10-31, Luke 3:7-18

Monday 10/20

Psalm 79, 80, 2 Kings 5:1-19
1 Corinthians 4:8-21
Matthew 5:21-26

Tuesday 10/21

Psalm 78, 2 Kings 5:19-27
1 Corinthians 5:1-18
Matthew 5:27-37

Wednesday 10/22

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
2 Kings 6:1-23
1 Corinthians 5:9-6:8
Matthew 5:38-48

Thursday 10/23

Psalm 83, 85, 86
2 Kings 9:1-16
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Matthew 6:1-18

Friday 10/24

Psalm 88, 91, 92, 2 Kings 9:17-37
1 Corinthians 7:1-9
Matthew 6:7-15

Saturday 10/25

Psalm 87, 90, 136
2 Kings 11:1-20
1 Corinthians 7:10-24
Matthew 6:19-24

Sunday 10/26

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
2 Kings 17:1-18
Acts 9:36-43, Luke 5:1-11

Monday 10/27

Psalm 89, 2 Kings 17:24-41
1 Corinthians 7:25-31
Matthew 6:25-34

Tuesday 10/28

Psalm 95, 100,
2 Chronicles 29:1-3
1 Corinthians 7:32-40
Matthew 7:1-12

Wednesday 10/29

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
2 Kings 18:9-25
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Matthew 7:13-21

Thursday 10/30

Psalm 105, 2 Kings 18:28-37
1 Corinthians 9:1-15
Matthew 7:22-29

Friday 10/31

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
2 Kings 19:1-20
1 Corinthians 9:16-27
Matthew 8:1-17

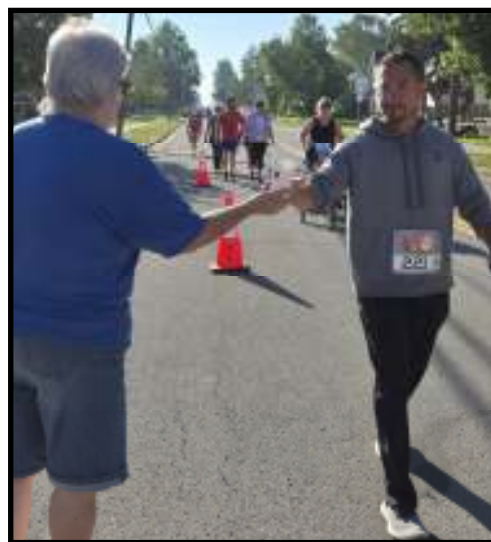
LifeWise 5K

LIFEWISE 5k

Acts Sunnydale House Water Station Mission
Held on Labor Day, September 1.

St. Paul's and Westside congregations
provided a water station in front of the
church and in the Fieldhouse parking lot.

Thank you to those who helped at the
watering stations or participated in the 5 K.



Kits Mission

School and Health kits!

St. Paul's had another successful year collecting school and health kits for the Festival of Sharing. Thank you to everyone that made a donation of kits or money to this mission. Our congregation donated **53 school (Kids Kits), 34 health (Hygiene kits) and 20 Period Packs, for a total of 107 kits.** Thank you to those volunteers that helped check and box up the kits on Monday, September 15th; Lois Cook, Gail Fessler, Connie Mault, Tracy Sdao, Jan Wyant, and Pastor Paul for helping to pack and delivering them to a collection location. Your generosity helps more people experience the love of God and your continued support to this mission is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Janna Thompson for leading this missions project!



Trip to China

Hello everyone,

I want to take this moment to thank you for your support and prayers as I traveled to China. During my month in China, I was able to visit Shanghai, Beijing, and Guiyang. While in China, I had meetings with a number of students and their parents. In Shanghai and Beijing, my students and their parents were tour guides to various places around each city. The families took me to restaurants and provided me with local cuisine.

I took the train to Guiyang, which is a province in the mountainous region of China, about 10 hours from Beijing. Guiyang is a popular destination for people of China. This area is considered an ideal destination for rest and relaxation within the nation. It only had five million people. This is where I worked with others to provide an English immersion camp at one of the international schools. There were three Americans at the camp, and two bilingual instructors. We read books, worked on projects, acted in skits, and taught the campers American sports like pickleball, flag football, and ultimate frisbee. During our time, we had fun with water balloons and powdered colors that we used for a color run game.

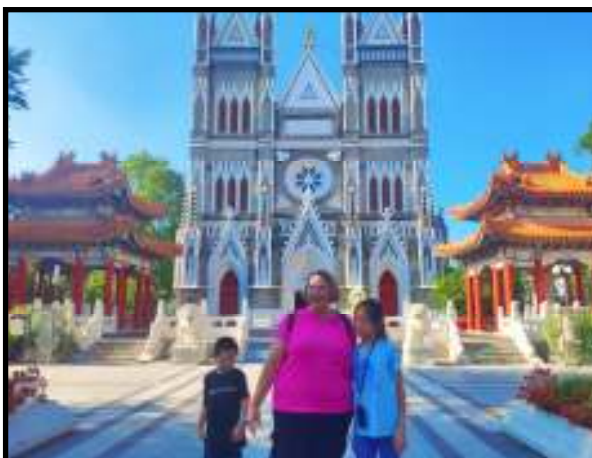
Our campers ranged in age from six to seventeen. Some campers spoke English, but others lacked proficiency. In the two weeks of camping, we had fifty campers. The camp received support from three organizations: China Venture Services, which offered scholarships to campers; RISE International Schools of China, which assisted with funding; and Light2Path, my employer, which provides English as a second language education. Together, we were able to plant seeds, water what God had already planted, and support all campers in their knowledge and practice of the English language.

After this camp was over, I went to another camp and supported the 'RISE International' teachers who were providing a camp based on learning about emotions. My job was to read the book "The Color Monster" and help the students understand emotions using English. The teachers then continued the English lesson, doing experiments and projects to practice using emotions. At this camp, we had over seventy-five campers ranging in age from four years old to twelve. This was a day camp, and the campers came for three hours. We had four sessions in a two-day period.

Overall, I met teachers, parents, and support staff at both camps. I had a wonderful time playing with my own students; their were five of them at the weeklong camp, and getting to know each camper better. When there was free time, I taught campers how to play games like Uno and Bop It, which quickly became popular activities.

Again, thank you for the many prayers and encouragement from all of you.

Marla Scannell

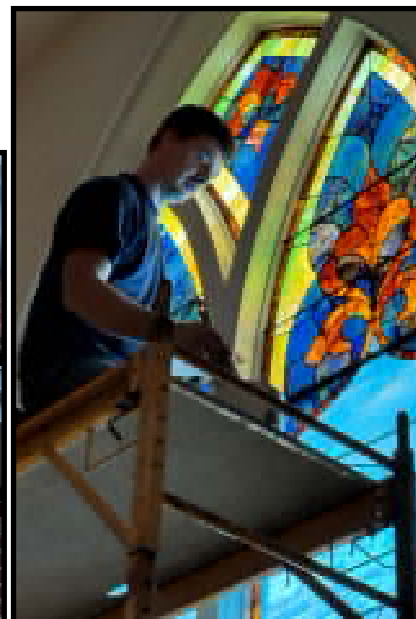
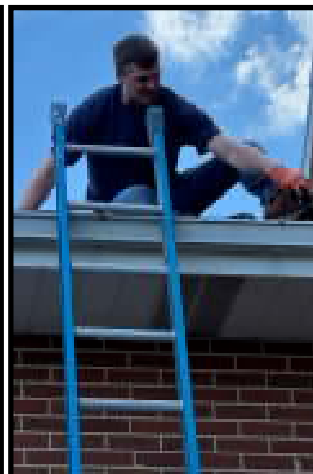
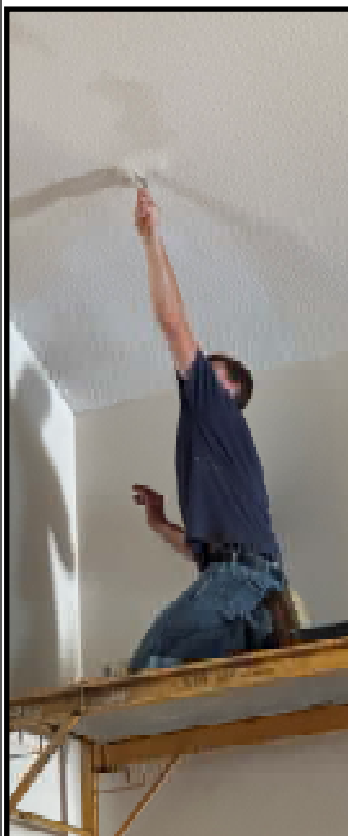


Connecting With ...

Thank you Alex McAdams and Jamie Wyant for attending to a few high rise projects around the Sanctuary.

Your hard work and dedication to St. Paul's is greatly appreciated!

Thank You



Welcome Back Choir!

The choir is back from summer break.

If interested in joining, practice is on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM.

All are Welcome!



Thank You!

Dear St. Paul's United Methodist Church,

From all of us at Crossroads Crisis Center, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for the generous monetary donation of \$72.87. Your generosity creates change for survivors of domestic violence.

Sincerely,
Michelle Glasco, Executive Assistant

The People of St. Paul's

Blessing of Prayer Shawls and Quilts

35 Prayer blankets were blessed on Sunday, September 21st. Thank you "Crafty Creature" small group for continuing to bring comfort, not only to the St. Paul's congregation, but also the community. 15 were taken to Springview Manor.

Remember in Prayer

*Recovering from Surgery
or in the Hospital*

Don Holmes

*Those in Need of Healing,
Support, Strength &
Encouragement*

In the Military

Nathan Stewart



From Knowing to Becoming

Get to know Jesus well because the more you know him, the more you'll love him. And the more you love him, the more you'll want to follow him. And the more you follow him, the more you'll become like him. And the more you become like him, the more you become yourself.

—Ned Erickson

OCTOBER

2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir..7:00 PM

Troy & Heather Selover
October 2

Barry & Cyndi Smith
October 8; 42 yrs.

Zack & Katie White
October 10

Juergen & Kathy
Waldick
October 11; 40 yrs.

Scott & Gail Fessler
October 15

Alex & Stacy McAdams
October 15

Jason & Sharla Murphy
October 17

Ron & Ann Stewart
October 19; 40 yrs.


Nate & Tonya Craft
October 27

			1 Brent McAdams	2 Reed Chambers	3 Beth Warris	4 Kim White
5 Corinne piper Blake Selover	6 Molly Przekora	7 Denny Thompson Brogan Wyant	8	9 Paysen Wyant	10 Ray Trigg	11 Slone Whetstone
12	13	14 Samuel Kinney	15	16	17	18 Lee Craft Brad Whetstone Ayva Wyant
19 Ryleigh Warris	20 Stacy McAdams	21 Juniper Fried Miles McAdams	22	23	24 Nick White	25 Gracie Gerdeman Sutton Wyant
26 Kassidy Bok Tonya Craft	27	28	29 John Fletcher Shirley Moser	30	31	

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Peanut Butter Sheet cake

By Sarah Krupa

Ingredients		Instructions
	CAKE:	Cake: Bring the peanut butter, water, and butter to a rapid boil. Combine the flour, sugar, salt and baking soda in a bowl. Pour the boiled mixture over the bowl with the dry ingredients. Mix together. Add unbeaten eggs and butter milk. Pour in a greased and floured sheet cake pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes. Frosting: Bring peanut butter, butter, and butter milk to a rapid boil. Pour in bowl with powdered sugar. Add the vanilla. Mix. Frost the cake while the frosting is still warm. *To make own butter milk* Add 1 Tbl. vinegar to 1 cup milk. Use half for cake and half for the frosting.
1/2 cup	Peanut butter	
1 cup	Water	
2 sticks	Butter or Margarine	
2 cups	Flour	
2 cups	Sugar	
1 tsp.	Salt	
1 tsp.	Baking soda	
2	Eggs, unbeaten	
1/2 cup	Buttermilk*	
		
	FROSTING:	
1/2 cup	Peanut butter	
1 stick	Butter or Margarine	
1/2 cup	Butter milk*	
4 cups	Powdered sugar	
1 tsp.	Vanilla	

Share Your Favorite Recipes:

They can be breads, fruits, veggies, meats, snacks, desserts, anything that's delicious.

Got some great ideas for the upcoming holidays? Have a family favorite?

What ever it is, recipes can be turned into, emailed, or mailed to the church office.

THANK YOU!

KIDZ KORNER



Create a simple and meaningful prayer box your family can use to share requests and pray together all week long.

What you need:

- Shoebox with lid
- Wrapping paper or decorative paper
- Scissors & tape
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers and other craft material (optional)
- Pens or pencils
- Index cards or small pieces of paper



What you do:

1. Wrap the shoebox like a gift, wrapping the lid separately so it can be opened.
2. As a family, decorate the box with drawings, favorite Bible verses, photos, or stickers.
3. Place the box somewhere central, like the kitchen or living room.
4. Keep index cards and pens nearby. When someone has a prayer request, they can write or draw it and drop it in.
5. Throughout the week, take turns praying over the requests as a family, or have a parent lead prayer time.

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.
—Colossians 4:2, NIV



JESUS TRAVELED TO MANY PLACES

Jesus traveled to many regions, cities, towns and villages to preach the Good News. In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of some of the places. Can you find the names on the list?

Words can go left to right, up, down or diagonal—so look carefully in all directions!

BETHANY	EPHRAIM	MOUNT OF OLIVES
BETHLEHEM	GALILEE	NAZARETH
BETHSAIDA	JERICHO	PEREA
CAESAREA PHILIPPI	JERUSALEM	SAMARIA
CANA	JORDAN RIVER	SIDON
CAPERNAUM	JUDEA	TYRE
DECAPOLIS	MAGDALA	WILDERNESS
EGYPT		

B	M	L	E	T	C	U	S	G	O	T	O	B	T	H	E
E	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R	E	M	N	S
T	U	E	U	E	N	A	R	B	Y	V	I	T	A	L	S
H	D	L	R	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	H	G	A	E
S	E	G	E	I	T	S	S	S	G	Y	O	L	D	I	N
A	A	C	J	A	C	O	N	I	Y	R	P	E	A	R	R
I	D	E	E	A	C	H	F	D	P	E	H	H	L	T	E
D	E	H	R	E	R	E	O	O	T	A	L	E	A	S	D
A	C	O	U	T	H	P	A	N	L	T	I	M	S	W	L
C	A	E	S	A	R	E	A	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I
H	P	P	A	A	Y	R	I	H	A	V	V	E	C	O	W
M	O	H	L	E	M	E	S	O	H	E	T	E	R	A	V
E	L	R	E	L	E	A	D	T	H	R	O	U	S	G	H
O	I	A	M	U	T	G	R	A	B	E	T	H	A	N	Y
L	S	I	I	L	G	A	L	I	L	E	E	E	E	F	R
O	M	M	C	A	P	E	R	N	A	U	M	M	A	R	K

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
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Living Our Faith



Holy Interruptions

Most of us are pretty good at planning—schedules, to-do lists, calendars filled to the brim. But what happens when God steps in with an unexpected detour?

Throughout Scripture, God often moved in the interruptions. Moses was tending sheep when he saw a burning bush. Mary was simply living her life when an angel appeared. Even Jesus was frequently “interrupted” by people seeking healing or hope—and He never turned them away.

"Interruptible faith" is a posture of openness. It's saying, "Lord, here's my plan—but I trust Yours more." It means slowing down, paying attention, and being willing to let God rearrange our day for His greater purpose.

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV) reminds us, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." May we have the courage to let Him.